

National Taiwan University of Science and Technology

Master's Degree Thesis Defense Examination Regulations

Passed at the 94th, 108th, 127th Academic Affairs Meeting and 248th Academic Affairs Meeting

File for future reference Ministry of Education letter Tai (84) Ji No.046414, September 20, 1995

File for future reference Ministry of Education letter Tai (89) Ji (IV) No.89003908, January 18, 2000

File for future reference Ministry of Education letter Tai (91) Ji (IV) No. 91163556, November 13, 2002

File for future reference Ministry of Education letter Tai Ji (IV) No. 09810131250, August 10, 2009

File for future reference Ministry of Education letter Tai Ji (IV) No. 1000199050, November 4, 2011

File for future reference Ministry of Education letter Tai Ji (IV) No. 1030064046, May 14, 2014

File for future reference Ministry of Education letter Tai Ji (IV) No. 108009885, June 26, 2019

File for future reference Ministry of Education letter Tai Ji (IV) No. 1080151546, October 22, 2019

File for future reference Ministry of Education letter Tai Ji (IV) No. 1090002766, January 20, 2020

Article 1 National Taiwan University of Science and Technology Master's Degree Thesis Defense Examination Regulations are set out in accordance with the Degree Conferral Law, the University Act, and their enforcement rules.

Article 2 Master's degree program students within the delimited period of study who have met the department (graduate institute or program) course and graduation requirements and have finished the first draft of their thesis are eligible to apply to take the thesis defense examination. Instead of a thesis draft, graduate students in master's programs in the arts, applied science and technology, or physical education and sports can submit a work of art or a certification of achievement along with a paper report or submit a technical report. The evaluation standards used by these particular types of master's programs will go into effect after being approved by a meeting of the department (graduate institute or program) faculty and a meeting of the Academic Affairs Council. Master's programs involving practical expertise can require a practical expertise report instead of a thesis. The evaluation standards used for practical expertise will go into effect after being approved by a meeting of the department (graduate institute or program) faculty and a meeting of the Academic Affairs Council. For the master's programs mentioned above which can require, instead of a thesis, a work of art or a certification of achievement along with a paper report, or a technical report or practical expertise report, the standards to be required concerning the range of report types allowed, data format, types of content and other matters relating to the items

submitted will be handled according to the relevant Ministry of Education regulations.

Article 3 The procedures for the master's degree thesis defense examination

I. Establishing the master's degree thesis defense examination committee.

II. Conducting the master's degree thesis defense examination

Article 4 All thesis defense examinations shall be conducted by a thesis defense examination committee established in accordance with the following regulations:

I. Committee Members: 3-5 (including at least two committee members from this university).

II. The members of a thesis defense examination committee must have research expertise in the field of the master's student's research topic and possess at least one of the following qualifications:

- a. Be a current or former professor, associate professor, or assistant professor;
- b. Be a current academician or a current or former researcher, associate researcher, or assistant researcher at the Academia Sinica;
- c. Hold a Ph.D. degree with a distinguished record of achievement in his or her field;
- d. Have a distinguished record of achievement or practical experience in an unusual or highly specialized academic discipline or profession.

III. Adjunct (part-time) faculty at NTUST can serve as "outside" committee members.

IV. Committee members are to be appointed by the chair of each department (graduate institute or program), under authority delegated by the president.

V. If the relationship between the thesis advisor or any examination committee members and the graduate student meets any of the conditions stated in Article 32 of the Administrative Procedure Law, the said person(s) will not be permitted to serve on the committee.

The detailed standards for determining the qualifications listed above under 4.II.c and 4.II.d shall be set out and approved by the department

(graduate institute or program) faculty meeting.

Article 5 All master's degree thesis defense examinations shall be conducted in accordance with the following regulations:

- I. Once the application for a thesis defense examination has been approved, upon notification by their department, the master's student will submit the required number of copies of the master's thesis and abstract to the graduate institute for review. Following determination that the thesis and abstract meet requirements, the thesis defense examination can be arranged.
Instead of a thesis, graduate students in master's programs in the arts or applied science and technology can submit a work of art or a performance along with a paper report or submit a technical report. The thesis defense examination shall be conducted orally, though a written exam may be given if deemed necessary.
- II. The grade for the thesis defense examination shall be the average of all the grades given by the thesis committee members present. The lowest passing grade for the thesis defense examination is 70 points or B-. However, if one-half or more of the members of a thesis defense examination committee give the examinee a grade lower than 70 points, the examinee shall be deemed as having failed the examination.
- III. All members of the thesis defense examination committee are expected to be present at the examination in person and may not authorize a proxy to represent him or her. At least three members of the examination committee must be present in order for the examination to be held. If an examination is held without meeting these conditions, the result will be considered invalid.
- IV. In special circumstances, with the approval of the Dean of Academic Affairs, thesis defense examinations can be held via online video meeting, but it should still be fair, impartial, and open, and should be recorded and videotaped from the beginning to the end, and finally saved in the related academic units. The related documents and files can only be retrieved with the approval of the chairperson of academic units.
- V. If plagiarism or any other forms of cheating are found in the thesis, work of art or certification of achievement accompanied by a paper report, or the technical report or practical expertise report,

after investigation and confirmation of the violation(s) by the examination committee, the examinee will be deemed to have failed the examination.

VI. Students who fail to pass their thesis defense examination and who have not exceeded their maximum period of study may apply to take a second examination in the following semester or academic year. Students who fail to pass their defense examination a second time will be required to withdraw from the university.

VII. A thesis, work of art or certification of achievement accompanied by a paper report, or a technical report or practical expertise report that has already been used to obtain a degree in Taiwan or abroad cannot be used to meet the requirements of another degree. However, work submitted under a dual-degree program agreed to by a Taiwan university and a university abroad, where the research is supervised by both universities and each university confers a degree is not subject to the above limitation.

Article 6 Thesis defense examinations shall be held once every semester, with the dates to be set by each department (graduate institute or program), from the beginning of October to the end of January for the fall semester, and from the beginning of April to the end of July for the spring semester. However, exceptions to these limits can be granted on a case-by-case basis with the approval of the Dean of Academic Affairs.

After the thesis defense examination, graduate students must submit their thesis with the signatures of approval of the thesis defense examination committee to their department (graduate institute or program) before the results of the thesis defense examination can be sent to the Academic Affairs Office.

The deadline for submitting the final master's thesis (both paper and digital copies) is the last day for registration of the semester following the thesis defense examination. Students who miss this deadline for submitting their thesis but have not yet exceeded their maximum period of study shall register for the semester following their thesis defense examination and submit their thesis before the deadline for that semester. They will be considered to have graduated that semester. Those students who miss the deadline for submitting their thesis and have reached the limit of their maximum period of study will be

deemed to have failed their thesis defense examination and required to withdraw from the university.

- Article 7 After a master's degree has been awarded, if one of the following situations occurs, the degree shall be revoked and the revocation will be publicly announced. If any other laws or regulations have been violated, the matter will be handled in accordance with those laws or regulations.
1. Any falsification of documents or other cheating is discovered to have occurred regarding the student's eligibility for admission to the program or during the student's coursework for the program.
 2. Plagiarism or other forms of falsification or cheating is discovered in the thesis, work of art or certification of achievement accompanied by a paper report, or the technical report or practical expertise report.

After a degree has been revoked according to the above regulations, the university will demand the return of the degree certificate from the recipient. All other universities and institutions that might be affected by the revocation will be notified.

- Article 8 These rules shall be implemented and go into force after being approved by a meeting of the Academic Affairs Council and put on file with the Ministry of Education for future reference.